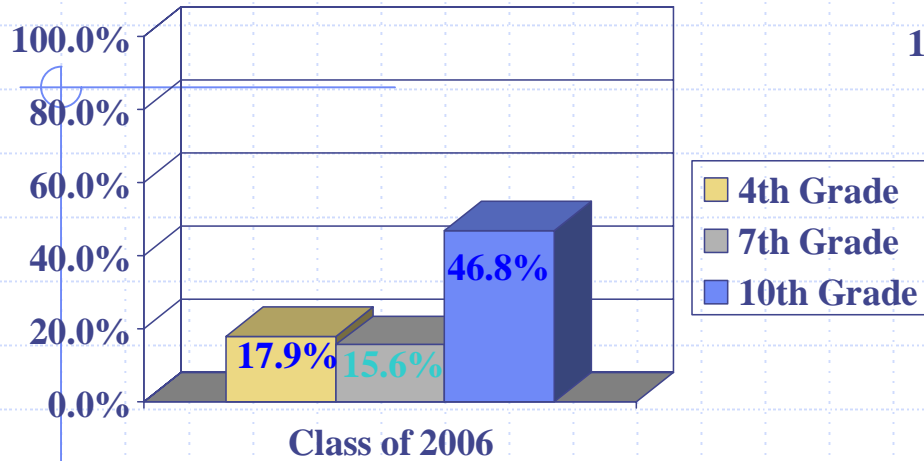


How Do You Motivate Students Who Have Not Experienced Academic Success Over the Past Seven Years?

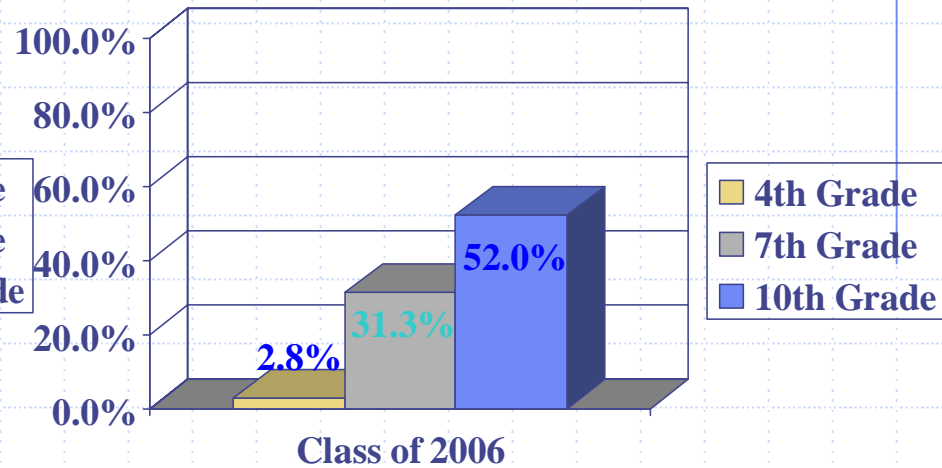
Richard Esparza
Principal, Grager High School

2006

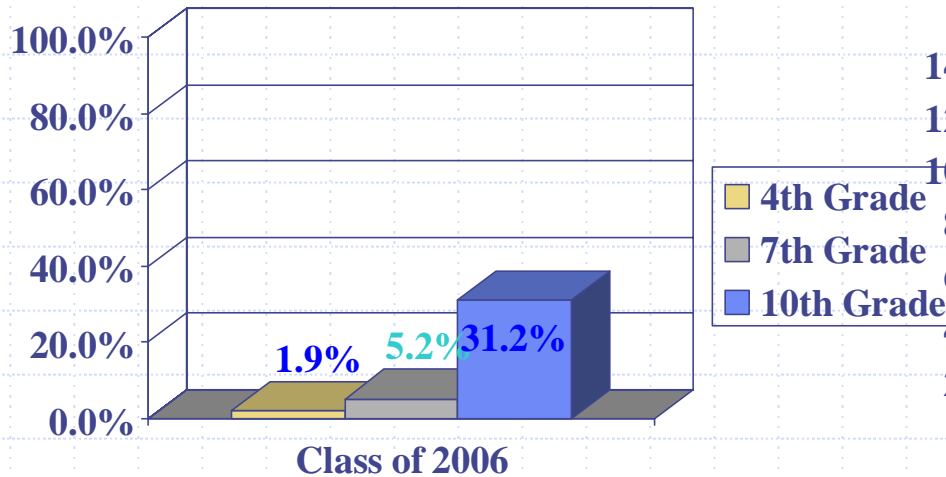
Reading WASL



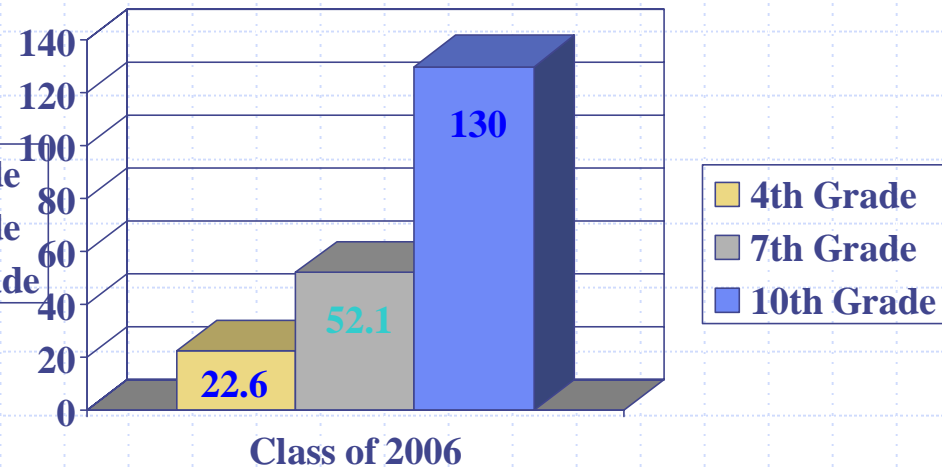
Writing WASL



Math WASL

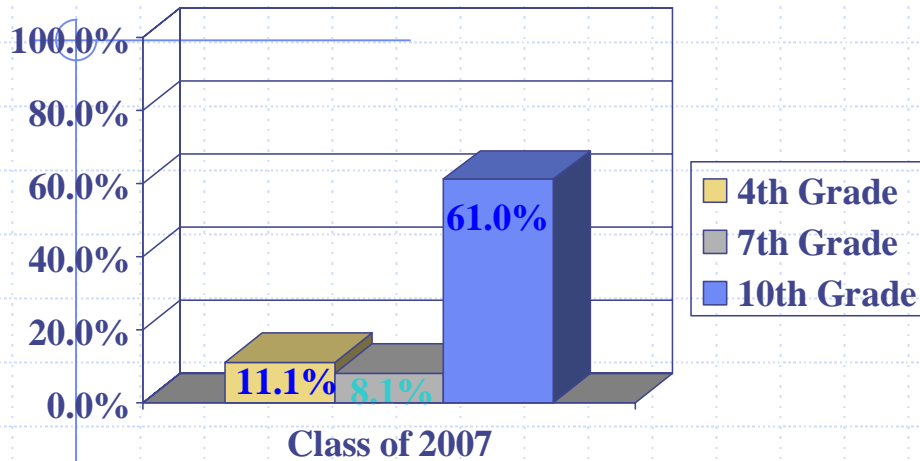


Cumulative WASL Scores (out of 300% points possible)

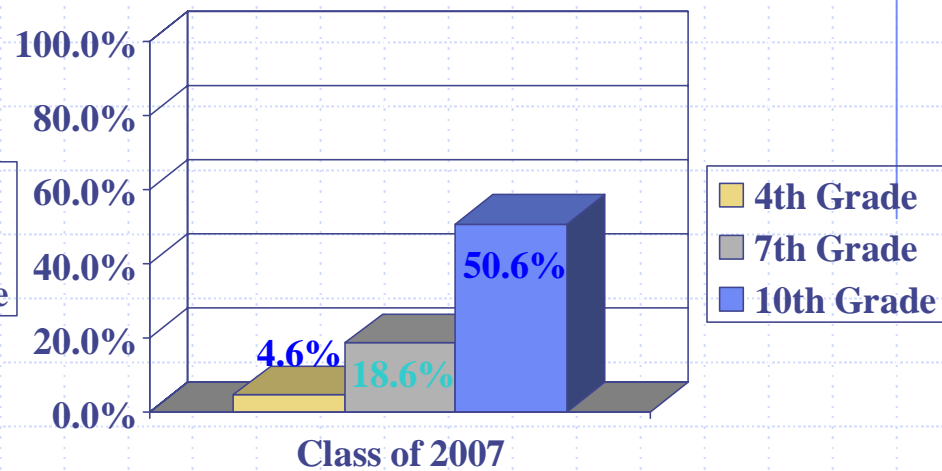


2007

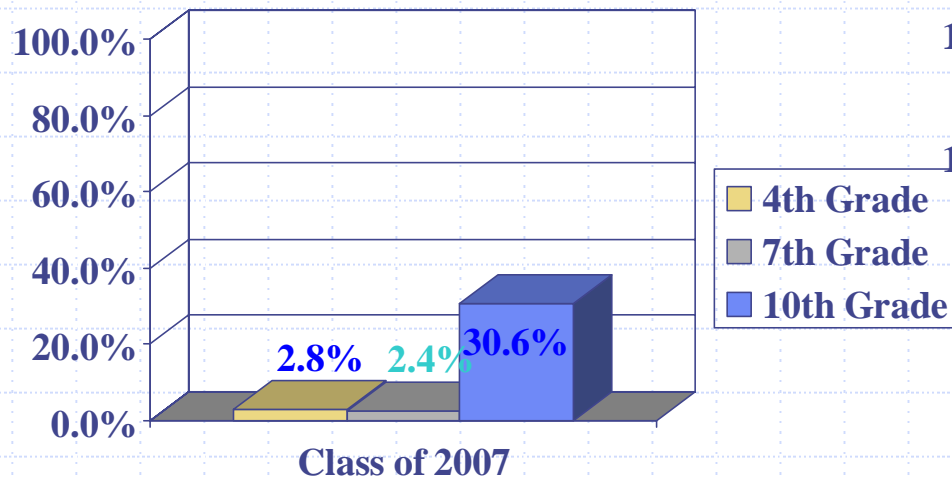
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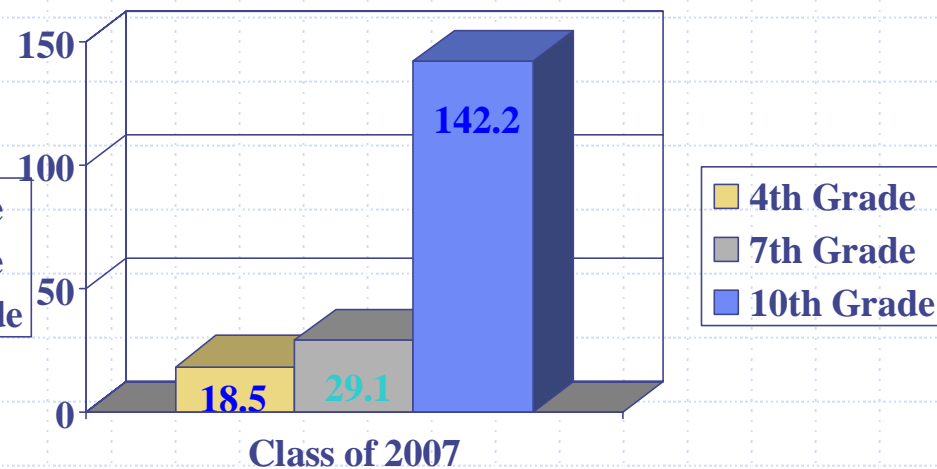
Writing WASL



Math WASL

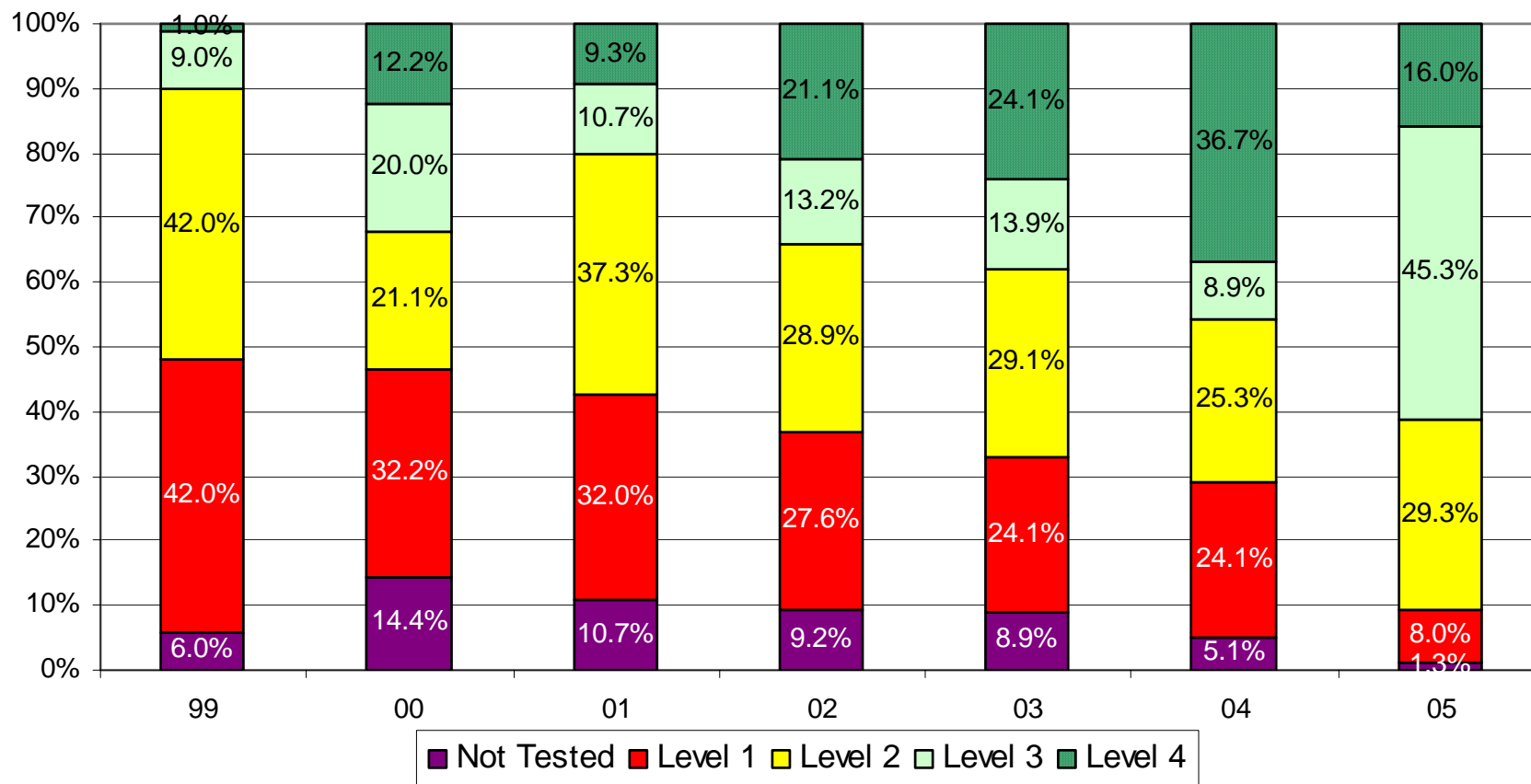


Cumulative WASL Scores (out of 300% points possible)



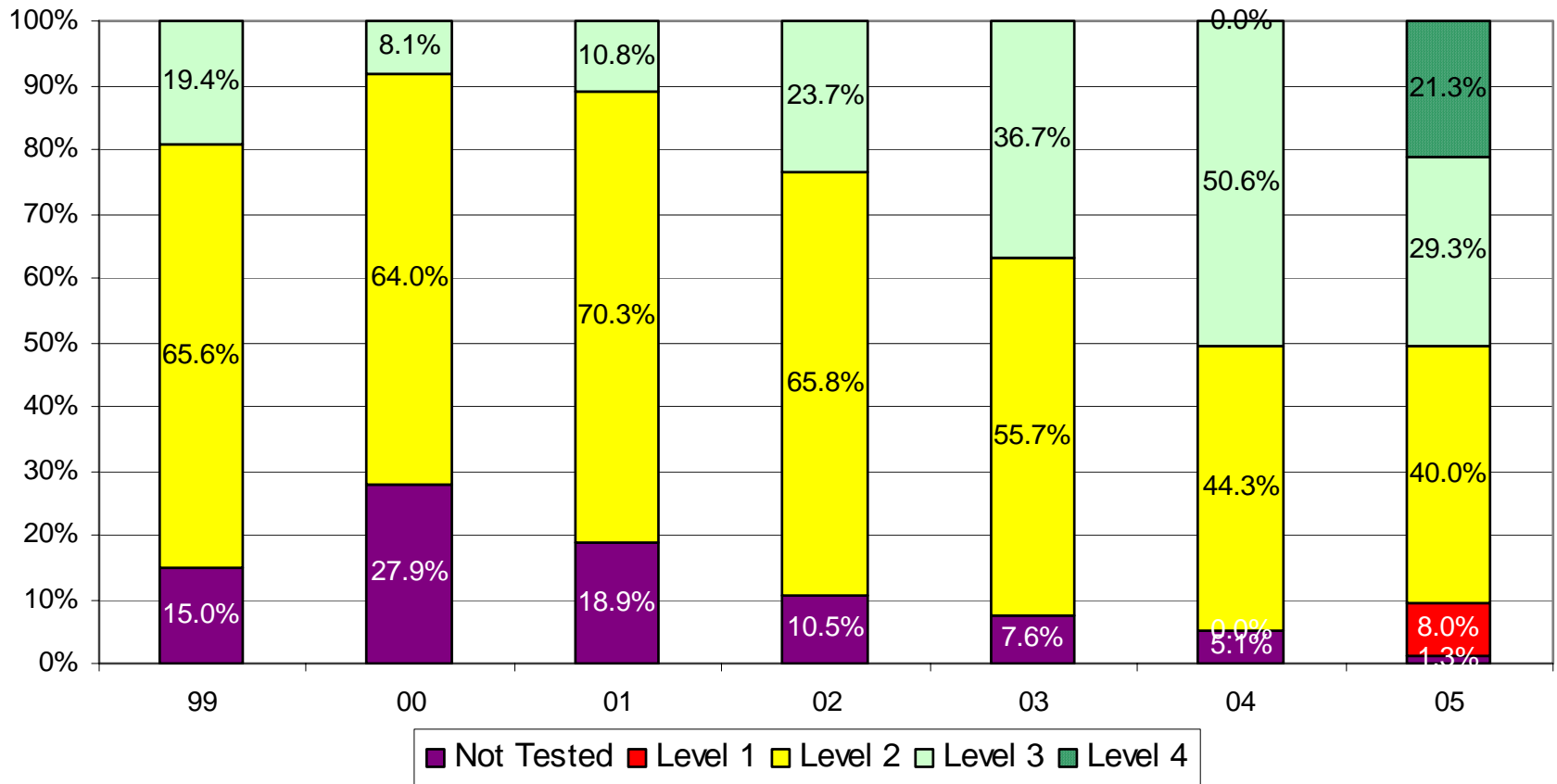
Reading- By Level

WASL 10 Reading: Percentage of Students By Level



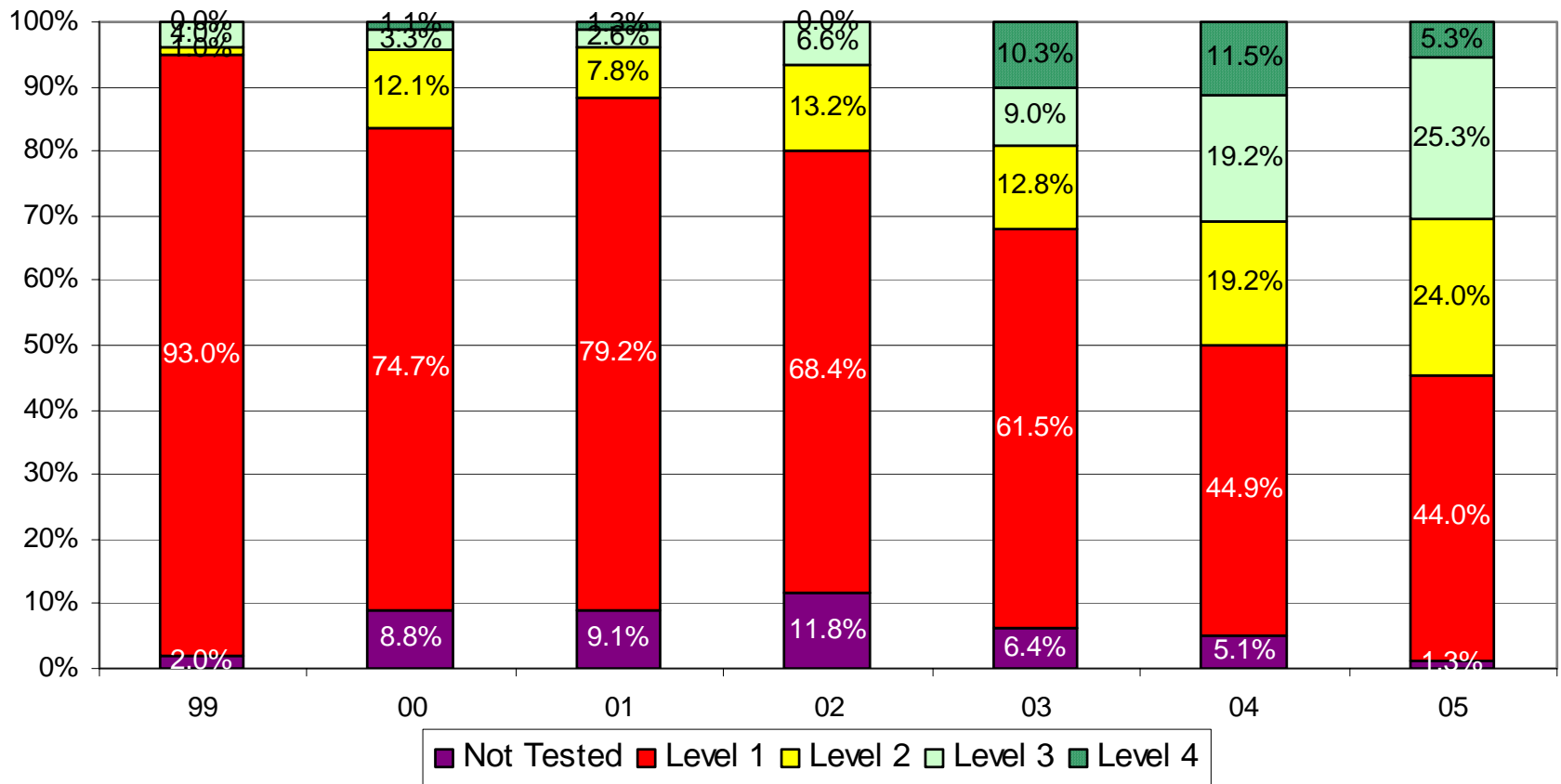
Writing- By Level

WASL 10 Writing: Percentage of Students By Level



Math- By Level

WASL 10 Math: Percentage of Students By Level



How do You Motivate Students Who Have Not Experienced Academic Success Over the Past Seven Years?

- ◆ Intervention- need to have a system in place that will motivate the discouraged reader. Our current freshman class came in with over 50% reading at 5th grade and below.
- ◆ Second Shot Reading- system designed to encourage students who are behind by establishing relationships with students on a one to five ratio. The focus is on reading comprehension while helping students improve their self-esteem.

Establish Relationships

- ◆ Current system- Overall the current system does not allow students and staff to establish strong relationships. For example: counselor to student is 400 to 1, teacher to student is 150 to 1, administrator to student is 400 to 1.
- ◆ Coaching- If you were to ask a coach to work with 150 to 400 athletes at one time, what do you think your answer would be?
- ◆ Advisor/Mentor- We work with students on a 20 to 1 ratio. 20 to 1 is a manageable number that allows a person to help students with grades, attendance, career goals, problems, etc.

Parent/Caregiver is Part of the "Team"

- ◆ Create a system where the parent/caregiver is a true member of the team of student, parent/caregiver, and teacher/advisor.
- ◆ A system that communicates to parents on a regular basis.
- ◆ A system that closes the communication gap.

The Circle is Complete

- ◆ Create a system where parent/caregiver is notified when student drops below expected level.
- ◆ Parent/caregiver + student + teacher/advisor = academic success.



High Expectations

- ◆ All students will be “expected” to reach their full academic and social potential in a caring and positive environment.
- ◆ Create a system where every student is expected to perform at a “C” grade and above.
- ◆ When student drops below expected level an academic referral is generated by the teacher which the student signs. Referral is then passed on to advisor who counsels student. Student takes referral home to have parent/caregiver sign. Student attends academic success program until grade is back to expected level.
- ◆ Create a system where students are supported to reach overall goal. Doctors and lawyers are a few of the many professions which allow retesting. So, why doesn't the education system? We allow students to retest for up to a two week period. How about grade inflation?

Principal Leadership

- ◆ Need to hold staff accountable to overall vision.
- ◆ When staff members are unwilling to support the overall goal that “all” students are capable of learning then leader needs to repeat the following statement:
“You know, Kathy, you are a good teacher who happens to have a different philosophy than what we agreed to follow, therefore, update your resume and I will be happy to write you a letter of recommendation.”

Conclusion

Create a system that contains the following: interventions, high expectations, 100% parental involvement, support students by allowing retesting and positive leadership.

**Education will never be complete,
it will continue to change
as long as there is learning going on!**

(Kathy Esparza)